

What is claimed is:

(Claim 1) A thematic vehicle interior, comprising:

a passenger cabin of the vehicle;

a feedback system for playing a plurality of audio programs for alerting a vehicle occupant of a plurality of vehicle conditions, said plurality of vehicle conditions including at least one of an open-door condition, a low-fuel condition, a maintenance-required condition, a low-tire-pressure condition, a headlights-on condition, a key-in-the-ignition condition, an unfastened-seatbelt condition, an engine-start condition, and an engine-shut-off condition; and a sensor for detecting said plurality of vehicle conditions and actuating said feedback system to play said plurality of audio programs;

wherein said plurality of audio programs provide a predetermined theme for said passenger cabin.

(Claim 2) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a cosmetic trim for attachment to the vehicle and being displayed within said passenger cabin;

wherein said cosmetic trim has a wooden appearance and said plurality of audio programs includes a wooden-instrument sound.

(Claim 3) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 2 wherein said wooden-instrument sound is recorded from at least one of a xylophone, a tongue drum, and a woodwind instrument.

(Claim 4) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 2 wherein said cosmetic trim is coupled to at least one of a steering wheel, an dashboard fascia, a gear shifter mechanism, a vehicle door, a vehicle seat, a center console, an overhead eyewear receptacle, an overhead transmitter receptacle, and an overhead light device.

(Claim 5) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 2 wherein said cosmetic trim is a metallic material and said plurality of audio programs includes a sports-related sound.

(Claim 6) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 5 wherein said sports-related sound includes at least one of a golf-swing sound, a golf-putting sound,

a whistle sound, a horn sound, a buzzer sound, a baseball-bat sound, a football-tackle sound, a cheering-crowd sound, and an organ sound.

(Claim 7) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 2 wherein said cosmetic trim includes a leather material and said plurality of audio programs includes a sports-related sound.

(Claim 8) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 1 wherein said feedback system comprises:

a media storage device for storing said plurality of audio programs; and
a media playback device coupled to said media storage device for playing said plurality of audio programs.

(Claim 9) A thematic vehicle interior, comprising:

a passenger cabin of the vehicle;
a cosmetic trim for attachment to the vehicle and being displayed within said passenger cabin;
a feedback system for playing a plurality of audio programs for alerting a vehicle occupant of a plurality of vehicle conditions, each of said plurality of audio programs being associated with one of said plurality of vehicle conditions, said plurality of vehicle conditions including at least one of an open-door condition, a low-fuel condition, a maintenance-required condition, a low-tire-pressure condition, a headlights-on condition, a key-in-the-ignition condition, an unfastened-seatbelt condition, an engine-start condition, and an engine-shut-off condition; and
a sensor for detecting said plurality of vehicle conditions and actuating said feedback system to play said plurality of audio programs;
wherein said plurality of audio programs and said cosmetic trim provide a predetermined theme to said passenger cabin.

(Claim 10) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein each of said plurality of audio programs has a predetermined melody.

(Claim 11) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein each of said plurality of audio programs has a predetermined volume.

(Claim 12) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein each of said plurality of audio programs has a predetermined duration.

(Claim 13) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein said cosmetic trim has a wooden appearance and said plurality of audio programs includes a wooden-instrument sound.

(Claim 14) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 13 wherein said wooden-instrument sound is recorded from at least one of a xylophone, a tongue drum, and a woodwind instrument.

(Claim 15) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein said cosmetic trim is coupled to at least one of a steering wheel, an dashboard fascia, a gear shifter mechanism, a vehicle door, a vehicle seat, a center console, an overhead eyewear receptacle, an overhead transmitter receptacle, and an overhead light device.

(Claim 16) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein said cosmetic trim is a metallic material and said plurality of audio programs includes a sports-related sound.

(Claim 17) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 16 wherein said sports-related sound includes at least one of a golf-swing sound, a golf-putting sound, a whistle sound, a horn sound, a buzzer sound, a baseball-bat sound, a football-tackle sound, a cheering-crowd sound, and an organ sound.

(Claim 18) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 9 wherein said cosmetic trim includes a leather material and said plurality of audio programs includes a sports-related sound.

(Claim 19) A thematic vehicle interior, comprising:
a passenger cabin of the vehicle;
a cosmetic trim for attachment to the vehicle and being displayed within said passenger cabin;
a feedback system for playing a plurality of audio programs related to said cosmetic trim and for alerting a vehicle occupant of a plurality of vehicle

conditions, each of said plurality of audio programs being associated with one of said plurality of vehicle conditions, said plurality of vehicle conditions including at least one of an open-door condition, a low-fuel condition, a maintenance-required condition, a low-tire-pressure condition, a headlights-on condition, a key-in-the-ignition condition, an unfastened-seatbelt condition, an engine-start condition, and an engine-shut-off condition;
a sensor for detecting said plurality of vehicle conditions and actuating said feedback system to play said plurality of audio programs; and
an interface coupled to said feedback system for assigning said plurality of audio programs to said plurality of vehicle conditions;
wherein said plurality of audio programs and said cosmetic trim provide a predetermined theme to said passenger cabin.

(Claim 20) The thematic vehicle interior recited in claim 1 further comprising:
an input device coupled to said feedback system for receiving a plurality of supplemental audio programs.